

APRIL

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third birthday

INSIDE

Nicky Paez
places first in
peanut recipe
contest

INSIDE

Henderson
pitches one-hitter
for Tigers in
recent action

The Elba Clipper

Volume 106, Number 42

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, April 3, 2003

1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 2 Adv. Inserts



SHOWING SUPPORT FOR THE TROOPS.—With Operation Iraqi Freedom now in full swing, many local citizens are showing their support for the troops serving in the war zone. Walter and Betty Cox of Elba placed a yellow ribbon on their mailbox in honor of son-in-law, Major Rob Hunt, who is currently serving in Iraq. Hunt was stationed in Germany when the war began and was immediately deployed to the battlefield. While outside adjusting the ribbon Tuesday morning, April 1, Mrs. Cox said she is of course worried about her son-in-law and all the other troops. For now though, she said the important thing is for everyone to pray for the safety of all the soldiers and a safe return home for each.

Annual Elba High School Band Day set for Saturday, April 5

The streets of Elba will be filled with those who love music this Saturday, April 5, from 9 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. as Band Day makes its yearly visit to the downtown square.

Band Day has long been a tradition in Elba as the students, band boosters and community work together to generate funds for the band program.

Through the ups and downs, the band boosters and people of Elba have worked together to ensure that the Elba High School band program continues to grow and prosper, and Band Day has been a major ingredient in that prosperity for at least the past 20 to 30 years.

Band Day has served as the major fund raising event for the Elba band program, and the money generated through the event is used to help pay expenses incurred by the program each year.

The Elba High School band is a self-funded program, and the money generated through Band Day is used for a variety of things including transportation, purchasing new music, uniform cleaning fees, band awards, instrument maintenance, new instruments and many other items. In addition, a portion of the proceeds from Band Day are put into an account for the

future purchase of uniforms and instruments.

Although uniforms and instruments are not yearly costs for the band program, band booster representatives said it is important for the program to save monies for these items every chance it gets. Both uniforms and instruments are costly items that have to be purchased at times, and it is good to have the money saved rather than having to worry about where the money will come when the occasion arises.

As for Saturday's event, there are several activities planned throughout the day to include performances by the band students and other local entertainers.

Also, the band boosters and students have been selling tickets for the annual barbecue plate dinner. These plates include meat, rice, slaw and bread and may be picked up on Band Day at the Senior Citizens Center beginning at 11 a.m. Anyone wanting to purchase a ticket should contact the Elba High School office at 897-2266. Tickets must be purchased before Saturday's event.

Jail for Bail is always a highlight event for Band Day as local adult "dignitaries" are incarcerated to raise money to

The schedule of events for Saturday is as follows:

9:00 a.m. - Noon	Chair Auction
9:00 a.m.	Elba High School Band - National Anthem and Flag Raising
9:45 a.m.	EES 5th and 6th grade bands
10:30 a.m.	Lois Pittman Line Dancing
11:00 a.m.	Carl Brook, Karaoke
11:30 a.m.	The Southside Shufflers
Noon	The Tiger Twirlers
12:30 p.m.	Master's Call
1:00 p.m.	Corporate and Business Donor Recognition
1:30 p.m.	EES 5th and 6th grade band
2:00 p.m.	Elba High School band

Called to Duty and Serving Their Country

Thousands of United States soldiers have been asked to serve their country during this time of war in the Middle East with many of these men and women coming from our local area; therefore, **The Elba Clipper** will honor these local citizens by printing a list of names each week of those serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom and the War Against Terrorism in Afghanistan.

Names will be added to the list as they are called in and given to the newspaper staff, and this list will be updated weekly. Although every United States soldier is truly appreciated, it is requested that this column be used for those currently serving in these war zones.

Anyone wanting to add the name of a local citizen (Elba or Coffee County resident or son or daughter of area resident) to this list is asked to call **The Elba Clipper** at 897-2823 before Noon on Tuesday of each week. Names called in after Noon on Tuesday will be reflected in the next week's paper.

Thanks for helping to honor these men and women as they put their lives on the line to serve the United States of America and protect the freedom of its people.

**Help Let the Community Know Who is Serving Our Country...
Have His/Her Name Added to This List!!!**

Elba getting head start on mosquito control

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Around these parts everyone knows warmer temperatures increase the threat of mosquitoes, and the City of Elba is taking precautions to control the population of these pesky creatures.

In years past, the city has waited to middle or late April to begin its chemical spraying campaign, but the project has been underway for a couple of weeks now already this year.

"Mosquitoes are moving in more abundantly than before because of the wet weather," said James Richards, the street department employee who is responsible for mixing the chemical used for spraying. "We the city had some complaints about mosquitoes so we started early."

Richards recently completed a course with other city employees concerning mosquitoes, and he said the main purpose was to learn how to set up the machines



James Richards prepares the chemical mixture each day that is used by the City of Elba in spraying to control the population of mosquitoes. The mosquito spraying effort is conducting for about four hours during the late afternoon just before sunset.

in a manner to get the full benefit of spraying.

He said the spray is effective while in the air, and the best speed of travel for this is at approximately 10-15 miles per hour. Going too fast causes the spray to go up and going too slow causes it to go down; therefore, speed is a very important aspect in quality spraying.

It is also important to use a good chemical for spraying, and Richards said the City of Elba has found that Permethrin 80% works best. With mosquitoes being most active in late afternoon or early evening, he said the spraying is done for about four hours, five days a week.

beginning just before sunset.

"Spraying for about 20 hours per week seems to keep the mosquitoes under control," Richards said. "And, we focus heavily on areas that are real wet with standing water."

He also said areas with piles of tires are good breeding grounds for mosquitoes, therefore, the city puts an extra focus on these areas, especially near businesses that deal with tires. And, he said briquettes are used to kill the larvae.

"Elba is in good shape in regards to its mosquito control," Richards said. "I didn't realize how far ahead of other places we are until I attended that class."

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Set Your Clocks
FORWARD
One Hour
Saturday Night!!!

Area Happenings

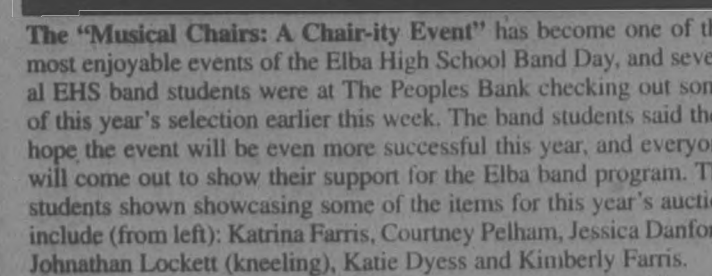
ELBA HIGH SCHOOL will hold an 8th Grade Parents Night at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 3 (TONIGHT), in the high school auditorium.

THE COFFEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION will hold its regular monthly meeting Thursday, April 3, (TONIGHT) at 7 p.m. at the board of education office in Elba.

GAMECOCK SUPPORT THE TROOPS BALLS will be held Friday, April 4, in the New Brackley High School gymnasium at 1:15 p.m. The public is invited and welcome to attend.

DEADLINE TO ENTER COFFEE COUNTY PRIZES is Sunday, April 6. Registration and first prize is set for April 6, at 1 p.m. at Esplanade Recreation Center. For more information call Jennifer Gilley at 953-9725.

THE ELBA PUBLIC LIBRARY will hold a book sale April 7-12 during regular operating hours. Any donations for the sale will be accepted.



The "Musical Chairs: A Chair-ity Event" has become one of the most enjoyable events of the Elba High School Band Day, and several EHS band students were at The Peoples Bank checking out some of this year's selection earlier this week. The band students said they hope the event will be even more successful this year, and everyone will come out to show their support for the Elba band program. The students shown showcasing some of the items for this year's auction include (from left): Katrina Farris, Courtney Pelham, Jessica Sanford, Johnathan Lockett (kneeling), Katie Dyess and Kimberly Farris.

"get out of jail", and this year, there will be a jail where children can pay to have their friends "locked up" until they can raise the bail to get out of jail.

A household items only yard sale is also planned and will be held in a location on the square.

And, making its second appearance at Band Day will be the "Musical Chairs: A Chair-ity Event. All types of hand-painted and decorated chairs and other items are currently on display at the local banks, and citizens may now offer bids on their favorite pieces by placing a bid on a sheet attached to each piece of furniture. On Saturday, the chairs will be moved to a stage at the court-house for further viewing and

last-minute bidding. The bids will close at 12 Noon on Saturday, April 5. Some of the items turned in so far include a bench made from a bed headboard and footboard, a rocking chair with a matching mosaic table, a hammock, a porch swing, an Elba Tiger desk and child's rocker, two tables decorated with pictures of band students and many other painted and refurbished chairs for both indoors and outdoors. Other items will be added up until Saturday.

Community support is vital for the continued success and growth of the band program in Elba, and the Elba band boosters invite everyone to come out and join them on the square in Elba this Saturday, April 5.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
with Ferrin Cox

There is an interesting web site we look at each week. It is a NASA Earth Observatory site and includes interesting photos, shots from space, of the world's natural hazards. It includes fires, floods, storms, etc. This week a viewer could see the exact spot of each oil well fire in Iraq. Last week those monstrous dust storms were very clear (or dusty) in the pictures. For those computer bugs who are interested, the public is encouraged to regularly utilize the site at: <hannounce@eodomo.gsfc.nasa.gov>.

Governor Bob Riley is making some positive noises from Montgomery, but many of them will be hard to get past that noise stage. The cutting out of fancy cars, reducing travel expense for state employees, demanding "waste" be cut by all agencies, including the public schools, proposing fast track refunds for all taxpayers, etc., are all soothing to the ears of stressed out Alabama taxpayers. Even the complaints about excessive pork barrel spending by legislators reads well to most Alabama folks. . . . until it curtails some special project back home. That last statement includes a clue to probably what will make it ever so hard for Governor Riley to make meaningful changes in the way Alabama government is operated. Each person has a personal idea of what is wasteful, and that doesn't include the individual's pet project on the home turf nor the expense money a family member receives.

This country is blessed with military experts. If you don't believe that, just tune your TV in on one of the endless news programs from the war zone. While it is a time honored American tradition to have and voice opinions, some of these resident experts appear to actually be folks who were kicked out of the military because of their offbeat ideas (or lack of ideas) but still will not accept reality. Add to them our journalist friends who have actually shot an automatic pistol plus a military rifle and maybe rode in a real Army tank one afternoon while a military jet was zooming overhead, and we are blessed with experts. While their opinions and methods of fighting a war vary, these experts have even more varied and sure fire ways they could have prevented combat completely.

It is hard to realize that Spring is upon us already. Those beautiful spring flowers just slipped up on us during the last few weeks. Our favorite time of the year is Spring - in the springtime. Then comes Fall and our thoughts turn to that being our favorite. Summer also has a lot of pluses and it isn't hard to find something to enjoy in the winter - if it is just sitting by a hot fire and roasting first one side and then the other.

Show your colors out of respect for our fighting men and women involved in the ongoing war. Pray for their safety.

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Boll Weevil Circle
at Highway 167 South
Piney Woods Info 347-1249

• Best of the South Soccer Tournament - EOCC
Bart Markel 393-6091

• Children's Fun Center - Debbie Shelton - 347-5447

• Enterprise Quilters Guild - Anne Crisp - 393-9024

• Weevil City Cruisers Car Show (Sat. 8-4)
Curt Childree - 393-1938

COFFEE COUNTY ARTS ALLIANCE

The Elba Clipper

USPS 171-080

is published every Thursday by The Elba Clipper,
417 W. Buford St., Elba, Alabama 36323
Publication Postage paid at Elba, Alabama 36323

Postmaster: Send Address Changes for
The Elba Clipper, P.O. Box 677, Elba, AL 36323-0677

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TELEPHONE (334) 897-2823 or fax (334) 897-3434
Toll Free 1-888-216-8050 • e-mail clipper@alaweb.com

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6 Months - \$10, including city & state tax
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6 months - \$11
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NCMEC provides hope in finding Alabama's missing children

Editorial by
Senator Richard Shelby

As Utah's Elizabeth Smart was safely returned to her family recently, many of us were reminded of the missing children in the United States who have not yet returned home. There are thousands of missing children across the country, and 17 of those kids are missing from families right here in Alabama. Seventeen dining room tables have an empty chair, 17 sports teams have a

position unfilled, and desks in 17 classrooms are vacant. Most importantly, 17 sets of parents' hearts are broken, because their child is not safe at home.

Having a child missing is a horrible thing for families to bear, but there is hope for these parents because of the commitment of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC).

NCMEC serves as the central information-gathering and communication center for parents, children, law enforcement,

schools and communities in recovering missing children. Each day, they are raising public awareness about ways to help prevent child abduction, molestation, and sexual exploitation. To their credit, they have recovered almost 70,000 missing children.

With technology like computer imaging, the internet, email and blast faxing, a family can notify NCMEC of their missing child and, in a very short time, posters will be available and distributed and the child's information will be accessible on

NCMEC's website. Improvements in technology have increased their ability to recover missing children.

Because the first few hours after a child's abduction are the most critical to his or her safe return, NCMEC has implemented new programs like LOCATER (Lost Child Alert Technology Resource), which is devoted to disseminating images and information to law enforcement as rapidly as possible.

With the assistance of Congress, NCMEC offers this technology, along with computers, at no charge to law enforcement in Alabama.

NCMEC has also initiated the AMBER ALERT Plan, which is a voluntary partnership between law enforcement agencies and broadcasters to alert an entire community to a missing child. By alerting residents to key information about an abduction, they can help recover the child by paying attention to car descriptions and license plates. Finally, NCMEC has teamed up with Toys 'R' Us and Babies 'R' Us to ensure that families have up-to-date photographs of their child to distribute should an abduction occur.

NCMEC has a proven record of success. Over the years, they have increased the recovery rate of missing kids from 66% in 1989 to 93% today. Since their inception, NCMEC has helped to recover 68,900 children. In this year's federal appropriations process, Congress supported my request for funding the Center's important programs.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children has had great successes in recovering children. We must continue to invest in them, so one day, we will reduce that number of missing children in Alabama from 17 to 0.

Elba Police Report

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26 - River stage - 7.99 feet (7:05 a.m.). Minor wreck reported at the Elba Post Office (10:30 a.m.); Routine activity.

THURSDAY, MARCH 27 - Civil disturbance (not in progress) reported at 923 Roosevelt Dr. (1:00 a.m.); River stage - 7.70 feet (6:38 a.m.); Breaking and entering (not in progress) reported at 117 Cordelia, Apt. A (11:53 a.m.); Routine activity.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28 - River stage - 7.51 feet (6:37 a.m.); Routine activity.

SATURDAY, MARCH 29 - River stage - 7.34 feet (6:59 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1526 County Rd. 208 (9:33 a.m.); Routine activity.

SUNDAY, MARCH 30 - Prowler reported at 881 N. Claxton Ave. (12:44 a.m.); River stage - 7.48 feet (6:13 a.m.); Disturbance reported at Little Beaver Dam Trailer Court, Lot C-3 (11:08 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a two-vehicle wreck on County Rd. 114 (3:14 p.m.); Civil disturbance (fighting) reported at 1250 Ann St. (6:57 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to Sunset Blvd. (9:09 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a one-vehicle wreck on County Rd. 201 (9:20 p.m.).

MONDAY, MARCH 24 - River stage - 9.08 feet (6:04 a.m.); Alarm activated at 2507 County Rd. 326 (5:15 p.m.); Possible prowler reported at 14055 Hwy. 84 E. (11:52 p.m.).

TUESDAY, MARCH 25 - River stage - 8.42 feet (7:05 a.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to a grass fire on Herman Driggers Drive (4:54 p.m.).

CALL
CRIMESTOPPERS
@ 897-3881
TO REPORT A
CRIME
REMAIN
ANNOYOUS

BULLETIN BOARD

• SOCIAL SECURITY REP. - Courthouse: 4th Tues. 12:30-1:30. Call FREE 1-800-772-1213.
• ROTARY CLUB - Tuesday @ Noon - First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
• ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN. - Tues. - 8 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall
• ELBA CITY COUNCIL - 2nd & 4th Monday - 6 p.m. City Hall
• WATER & ELECTRIC - Tuesday following 2nd Monday - 6 p.m. - City Hall

• GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - Every Monday 6:30 p.m. Elba United Methodist Church enter on side on W. Davis St. Maggie Garrett Classroom.
• COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION - 2nd & 4th Monday - Community Room in the Senior Center Complex @ New Brockton

• LIONS CLUB - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizen Center
• ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD - 1st Thurs. - 5:30 p.m. - Supr. Office
• AMERICAN LEGION - 1st Tuesday of every month - 7:00 p.m. Legion Hall - Troy Hwy.
• MASONIC LODGE 170 - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month - 7 p.m.
• BAND BOOSTERS - 1st Mon. - 7 p.m. Band Room @ Elba High School
• VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER - Mon-Fri. 12-12 noon & 12:30 - 4:30 New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 894-5858

• COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN. - 3rd Sat. - 3 p.m. - Club House
• COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN - 3rd Wed. Noon - Colony Inn, Enterprise

• ELBA AIRPORT AUTHORITY - 2nd Thursday at noon, Driscoll Hangar at the Airport
• AARP meets every 2nd Tuesday night of the month
• ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB - 1st & 3rd Monday - 7 p.m. - Elba High boys locker room
• NEW SEASONS STUDY CLUB - Every 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m.

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Elba Chamber of Commerce
Calendar of Events and Meetings

April 2003

April 1 - April Fools Day; Elba Rotary Club meeting
April 2 - Azalea Garden Club meeting
April 5 - EHS Band Day
April 6 - Daylight Savings Time begins
April 7 - Southeast Alabama Community Band concert
April 8 - Elba Rotary Club meeting
April 13 - Community Wide Church Service - Kickoff for "Celebrate Elba 150" on the courthouse square
April 14 - Elba City Council meeting
April 15 - Income Tax Day; Elba Rotary Club meeting; New Seasons Study Club meeting
April 17 - Elba Chamber of Commerce Board meeting
April 18 - Good Friday
April 20 - Easter
April 22 - Elba Rotary Club meeting
April 24 - Elba DRA meeting
April 26 - 150th Brunson reunion

April 28 - Walk Alabama Health Initiative ends; Elba City Council meeting
June 3 - Elba Rotary Club meeting
May 2003
May 3 - "Celebrate Elba 150" events: Fun Run at 8 a.m. and Youth Fishing Tournament - Coffee County Lake at 1 p.m.
May 6 - Elba Rotary Club meeting
May 7 - Azalea Garden Club meeting
May 11 - Mother's Day
May 12 - Elba City Council meeting
May 13 - Elba Rotary Club meeting
May 15 - Elba Chamber of Commerce Board meeting
May 17 - Armed Forces Day
May 18 - Elba High School Baccalaureate
May 20 - Elba Rotary Club meeting; Elba High School graduation
May 22 - Elba DRA meeting; Elba City Schools' last day for students to attend
May 26 - Memorial Day

May 27 - Elba Rotary Club meeting; Elba City Council meeting
June 2003
June 3 - Elba Rotary Club meeting
June 4 - Azalea Garden Club meeting
June 9 - Elba City Council meeting
June 10 - Elba Rotary Club meeting
June 14 - Flag Day
June 15 - Father's Day
June 17 - Elba Rotary Club meeting; New Seasons Study Club meeting
June 19 - Elba Chamber of Commerce Board
June 21 - First Day of Summer
June 23 - Elba City Council meeting
June 24 - Elba Rotary Club meeting
June 26 - Elba DRA meeting

Contact the
Elba Chamber of
Commerce to have
your event added to
the calendar!!

Now on Sale at the Chamber Office:

- Elba Car Logo - \$5.00 • Chamber Membership Lists - \$5.00
- 2003 Elba Christmas Ornament featuring the Coked Hot House - \$10.00
- Hand Towels featuring the Historic County Courthouse - \$10.00
- City Afghan featuring Elba landmarks - \$50.00

Elba Chamber of Commerce (334) 897-3125

Kare Whitworth, executive director

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

The City of Troy, Ala. is touted as being a great place for senior citizens and retirees. However, we senior citizens, taxpayers and voters who own and live here in our own home are not entitled to the comfort and peace of same. Having a normal conversation in our living room or watching our TV and having such overriden or drowned out by the screaming, yelling, swearing, crying or fighting of children and young adults is legal.

For over a year my mother and I have complained about noise problems to the Mayor, City Council members, the police, a lawyer, a D.A. and local juvenile authorities. We have been told repeatedly that there is absolutely nothing anyone can do to silence the racket in our neighborhood, much less near our home.

We have been offered ludicrous solutions such as, "Get used to it." How? The loud noise invades our entire home from basement to the farthest bedroom corner. Also preferred, "Get yourself some ear plugs."

Excuse us, but we need to be able to hear one another, the doorbell, the telephone, weather alerts, etc. And finally, "Move!" Why should the widow of W.W. II veteran, an invalid living on a fixed, limited income and her caregiver-daughter have to consider moving when they've been in their beloved, paid for home for 38 years?

We shall continue to battle on until the City of Troy wakes up and realizes this is not just problem. This is the synopsis of a resolution Senator Gerald Dial, a conservative Democrat, introduced recently in the Alabama Senate in support of President George W. Bush, Prime Minister Tony Blair, and our armed forces. The resolution also criticized France.

Who was against this resolution? On a roll call vote, all ten

Republicans and six conservative Democrats voted for the Dial resolution. Seventeen Democrats voted against the Dial resolution and defeated it by a vote of 17 to 16. Democrats Pat Lindsey and Phil Poole were not present.

The six Democrats who voted for the Dial resolution were Tom Butler, Tommy Ed Roberts, Gerald Dial, Ted Little, Wendell Mitchell, and Jimmy Holley. Democrats Lowell Barron, Roger Bedford, Bobby Denton, Jeff Enfinger, Sandra Escott, Vivian Figures, Zeb Little, E.B. McClam, Larry Means, Hinton Mitchell, Myron Penn, Jim Prentiss, Quinton Ross, Jr., Hank Sanders, Rodger Smitherman, Charles Steele, Jr., and Gary Tanner voted against the Dial resolution.

Senators Hinton Mitchell and Roger Bedford introduced a resolution "declaring support of our men and women of the United States armed forces."

Although the ten Republicans and six conservative Democrats would obviously have preferred a stronger resolution, the weak or Mitchell/Bedford resolution was adopted unanimously by a vote of 33 to 0. Lindsey and Poole were not present.

Like the stronger Dial resolution, How about you? J. Elbert Peters Huntsville, AL

EXPRESS YOUR VIEWS
WRITE A
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Southeast Community Band to play in Elba

The Southeast Community Band, under the direction of Dr. John Long, will play a free concert in Elba on April 7, beginning at 7 p.m. at the Elba High School auditorium. The band consists of 55 members, including high school band directors, members of Troy State University Music faculty, professional musicians, and retired music educators.

The program of approximately one hour will include "Tulsa," a descriptive piece depicting the bringing in of an oil well, "Bugler's Holiday," featuring the entire trumpet section, and several well-known soloists.

Bobby Collins, formerly first horn with the Birmingham Symphony, will be first soloist, playing Herbert L. Clarke's great selection, "Sounds of the Hudson."

Second soloist will be Ray Smith, with a clarinet medley entitled "A Tribute to Benny Goodman."

Sheila Jackson will be third soloist, performing the beautiful hymn, "Precious Lord, Take My Hand."

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I - WHAT A GIRL WANTS (PG)
M-F 7 & 9:15 S&S 2, 7 & 9:15
No Pases - No Wed. Night Discounts

II - BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE (PG-13)
M-F 7 & 9:15 S&S 2, 7 & 9:15

Westgate Center
III - THE CORE (PG-13)
FRI 7 & 9:30 S&S 2, 7 & 9:30
MON-THUR 7 ONLY
No Pases - No Wed. Night Discounts

IV - PIGLETS BIG MOVIE (G)
S&S 2:00 ONLY

HEAD OF STATE (PG-13)
M-F 7 & 9:15 S&S 7 & 9

College Cinema - College Plaza
I - A MAN APART
M-F 7 & 9:30 S&S 2, 7 & 9:30 (R)

II - BASIC
M-F 7 & 9:30 S&S 2, 7 & 9 (R)

III - PHONE BOOTH
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Obituaries

HELEN ALLDAY
MCCOLLOUGH

Mrs. Helen Allday McCollough, age 73, of Elba, Ala., died March 26, 2003 at Flowers Hospital, Dothan, Ala.

Mrs. McCollough was a retired educator of 39 years, and her tenure included schools in Bonifay, Fla., Coffee County Schools, and the Elba City System. Mrs. McCollough was a member of Alpha Delta Kappa educational honor society, Elba First Baptist Church and an active member of the Elba Housing Authority.

Funeral services were held March 30, 2003 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Mack King and Rev. Man Gray officiating. Burial followed in Evergreen Cemetery of Elba with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Mrs. McCollough was preceded in death by her husband, Bill D. McCollough; mother, Mary Vivian Allday; father, Frazier Allday; and brother, Thomas Hill Allday.

Survivors include one sister, Mozelle Prescott, one brother-in-law, C.G. Nicholson, and one sister-in-law, Louise Nicholson, all of Elba; three nieces, LaNelle Powell of Oxford, Ala.; Beth Ledford, Huntsville, AL.

Express your views
write a
letter to the editor

Fuller Family
The family of **Trudie Irene Fuller** wishes to extend a sincere thanks for all the thoughts, prayers, visits, food and flowers that were offered to our family during this time of sorrow.

Also, a very special thank you to the Elba General Nursing Home and all the employees that took such great care of our mom during the past 6-1/2 years she was there.

God bless you.
Phyllis Fuller Carter
Hubert Fuller

4/3pd.

Get Into Spring

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THYER WIGGLY CHURCHILL CITY POTATOES 97¢ 5 LB. BAG	FROZEN HUNGRY JACK WAFFLES 97¢ 12-12.5 OZ. PKG.	ASSORTED MOUNTAIN TOP FRUIT PIES 2/\$4 EACH PIE	
MOORE'S STEAK MARINADE \$1.87 16 OZ. BTL.	BETTY CROCKER HAMBURGER HELPER \$1.27 EACH BOX	PILLSBURY GRAND'S BISCUITS 97¢ 16.3 OZ. CAN	PINK BEAUTY PINK SALMON \$1.07 14.75 OZ. CAN

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CHURCH & AREA NEWS

Westside Baptist Church announces installation of Bro. Bobby Holladay as pastor Sunday morning April 6

Westside Baptist Church of Elba announces the installation of Bro. Bobby Holladay as pastor on Sunday morning, April 6, at the 10 o'clock worship service. The public is cordially invited.

Rev. Holladay is a native of Rutledge, Ala. and a graduate of Laverne High School. Upon his graduation he attended Massey Draughn College and Mobile College where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in religion. Immediately after graduation from Mobile College he enrolled at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary where he earned the Master of Divinity

degree in 1983. Rev. Holladay comes to Westside from the Director of Missions position in Salem-Troy Association in Troy, Ala. Prior to his position he was pastor of Summerville Baptist Church in Phenix City, Ala. where he and his family enjoyed 14 years of rewarding ministry. His wife, Jeanette, is active in the church working and visiting along side her husband. They have been blessed with two daughters who are grown and on their own.

Westside is blessed to have Bro. Holladay invest his talents and gifts in the ministry in Elba.

Hebron Baptist Church to host Canaan Land Quartet at Gospel Singing

Hebron Baptist Church will hold a gospel singing on Saturday, April 12, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. The featured group will be the Canaan Land Quartet of Clanton, Ala. The church is located near the Pike and Coffee County line on Highway 87.

Shiloh Baptist Church to have Revival Services April 7-9

Revival Services will be held at Shiloh Baptist Church April 7-9 beginning at 7:00 p.m. nightly. The evangelist will be

Rev. Wayne Sharpe. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

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Summer is right around the corner! Do you need a "clue" about VBS?

YOU are invited to the Coffee County Baptist Association's VBS Clinic! Join us as we prepare for this exciting time. This free clinic will offer an overview of this year's theme, as well as, decorating ideas, craft solutions, helpful hints, and the age appropriate training that you need to reach children in Coffee County.

Where: Hillcrest Baptist Church, Enterprise When: Monday April 7th Time: 6:30 pm (VBS materials will be available for purchase) We look forward to seeing you there!

ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA 897-2006

***Thinking of you, praying for you: O.B. Daniels, Ella M. Brooks, Rev. Henry Ewing Jr., Lovie Hooks, Earnest Ellison, Rev. Charles Lane, Rev. N.L. Robinson, Genevieve Paige, Faye Manning, Mason Guiley, Versie Barnes and Johnnie Ruth Belcher.

***Friendship Baptist Church will celebrate Rev. John M. Bryant's 17th Pastor's Anniversary on April 27, 2003 at 2:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be Rev. W.L. Peterson.

***Greater New Zion Baptist Church will celebrate Rev. W.L. Peterson's 17th Pastor's Anniversary on April 6, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. The guest speaker will be Rev. George Davis.

***Goshen First Baptist Church will hold Youth Day on April 6, 2003 at 11:00 a.m. and Youth Revival April 7-9, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. nightly.

***15th Anniversary of the Singing Echoes of New Brockton, Ala. will be held April 5 and 6, 2003. The first session will be held Saturday, April 5, 2003 at 7:00 a.m. at Poplar Spring Baptist Church in New Brockton, Ala. The second session will be held Sunday, April 6, 2003 at 4:00 p.m. Other groups include Fantastic Friends, Gospel Express, The Mighty Kings, and Gospel Travelers. For more information call Ozella Headd 894-0332, Alvonya Nelson 894-5134, or Helen Burrows 894-6771.

***Otis is a graduate of Leighton County Training School and Alabama State University, Montgomery and the University of North Alabama in Florence.

Otis is married to the former Joyce Belcher (formerly of Elba) who is an educator and an ordained minister in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. They are the parents of two children, Theo and Kathy. Theo is a graduate of Auburn University and is employed in Birmingham.

Kathy is a Senior at Alabama State University in Montgomery. Otis is the son of Catherine Johnson of Leighton and the son-in-law of Eria Lindsey Belcher of Elba and the late Grover Belcher.

Today is a good day to be grateful! Eria

Mann Kirkland Singers to be in concert at Country Cathedral

The Mann Kirkland Singers will be in concert at Country Cathedral on Saturday, April 5, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 6, 2003 at 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Country Cathedral is located on Hwy. 84 East out of Opp. No admission will be charge. Everyone is welcome to attend.



Jeanne Dillon and Sam Windham show off some of their paintings to be featured in the upcoming art show to be held April 13-May 9 at Commor Gallery on the Enterprise Campus of Enterprise Ozark Community College.

Art Show on ESJC Campus to feature two students

Opening Saturday, April 13, in the Commor Gallery at the Enterprise Campus of Enterprise Ozark Community College, will be the duo art student show of Jeanne Dillon of Chancelor and Sam Windham of New Brockton. Opening day hours will be 3:00-5:00 p.m. and will feature a reception with the artists.

Mrs. Dillon is taking Supervised Study with an emphasis in acrylic painting. She says she is taking the study course for enrichment purposes. This is her third semester to attend.

"Like flowers the best," says Mrs. Dillon. "But I am trying new topics in order to stretch myself. This is my first show here, and I participated in a show in Ozark. I will have 12-15 paintings in this show which will feature lizards, cats, flowers, still life, and landscapes."

Sam Windham started out at the College taking music courses. "I saw all the creative work going on and took computer graphics," says Mr. Windham. He ended up taking a few more music courses and then computer all the computer graphics courses. "Then I decided I would like to try painting. I am taking Painting II this semester and learning a lot. I consider this College as a super resource for all areas for just anyone. It is inspiring to be in classes with younger students."

In this show, I plan to feature day lilies, conceptual, landscapes, beach still life. I am enjoying painting!"

There is no charge to attend the art show. Some of the artwork will be for sale. The show will run through Friday, May 9. For more information about the art show or about the art courses at Enterprise-Ozark Community College, contact Ms. Faye Earnest at 334-347-2623, ext. 2254.

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LIFESTYLES



Miss Melissa Kate Sanders

Miss Sanders and Mr. DeLoney to be united in Marriage April 28 in Ozark

Mr. and Mrs. John Carl Sanders of Roston, Ala., announce the engagement of their daughter, Melissa Kate Sanders, to John Byron DeLoney, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. DeLoney Sr. of Ozark, Ala.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Mr. Lamar Lott and the late Mrs. Margaret Lott of Brundidge, and Mrs. Virginia Sanders and the late Mr. Marion Sanders of Roston.

She is a 1997 honor graduate of Arton High School and will graduate from the Harrison School of Pharmacy at Auburn University with a Doctor of Pharmacy degree in May 2003. While attending Auburn University, she was member of the Chi Omega Social Sorority, Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity, Alabama Pharmacy Association, American Pharmaceutical Association, and Phi Lambda Sigma Pharmacy

The couple will be married June 28, 2003 at 6 p.m. at the Ozark Baptist Church, Ozark, Ala. A reception will follow in the church fellowship hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Wade

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Republican Women of Coffee County to meet April 16

Republican Women of Coffee County will be meeting at Po Folks Restaurant, 650 Boll Weevil Circle on Wednesday, April 16th at 11:30 a.m. for their luncheon meeting. Coffee County Commissioner Tom Grimley will be speaking. The menu will be Grilled Chicken Salad with Bread Sticks and Drink for \$7.00 inclusive. The public is invited. For reservations call Fay McCarty at 393-0471.

Crime Victims Right Week is April 6-12

A crime may last only moments, but its impact can be felt for a lifetime. National Crime Victims Right Week is April 6-12, 2003, and this year's theme is "Victim's Rights: Fulfill the Promise." A candle-light vigil honoring victims of crime, their families, and those who support them will be held on Sunday, April 6, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. at Houston Love Memorial Library, 212 W. Burdeshaw Street in Dothan. District Attorney Doug Valeska will be the guest speaker. For more information call Pat Jones (334) 885-2684.

Mr. Henderson and Miss Bryant

Jennifer Amanda Bryant to marry Christopher Wayne Henderson on May 17

Mr. and Mrs. Willard Michael Bryant of New Brockton announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer Amanda Bryant, to Christopher Wayne Henderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Terry W. Henderson of Kinston.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of the late Christine Bryant and Mr. and Mrs. Willard Bryant of New Brockton and the late Mr. and Mrs. Francisco Acosta of Juarez, Mexico.

Jennifer is a 1999 graduate of New Brockton High School, graduate of Enterprise State Junior College, and is now attending Troy State University where she is majoring in sports and fitness management. She hopes to obtain a position in cardiac rehabilitation after graduating. She is presently employed in Elba.

The future groom is the grandson of Elizabeth

Mr. and Mrs. Wade

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Twentieth Century Study Club tours former Sanders/Harper home

On Wednesday, March 12, the Twentieth Century Study Club visited the Sanders/Harper house which is now the home of Ann Vaughan Richards and family. The house was moved from its original location, next door to the First Baptist Church in Elba, to a rural setting in Covington County.

After driving to the end of the paved road, down several dirt ones and then through the gated entrance, the members were greeted by the gracious Ann Vaughan Richards. She gave the members a tour of the house, which is being restored, and also a tour of the entire farm.

The enjoyable meeting came to a close with the hosts, Betty Vaughan serving coffee and dessert.



Tristen Tindell

Tristen Tindell celebrates 3rd birthday on March 23

Tristen Tindell, son of Beverly and Mike Tindell, celebrated his 3rd birthday on Sunday, March 23, 2003 at his home. He had a fun time with his buddies. Helping him celebrate were Kennedy Cowen and his mom (Andrea Cowen), Myrna and Ed Cowen, Matthew Morris and his Mom and Dad (Becky and Ricky Morris), Kaylee and Tyler Funder and their Mom (Anissa Funder) and Granny (Julia Brooks), Nadine Fuller, Bobby and Sue Tindell, Uncle Mike and Cousin Parker, Sharon Cowen, Mom, Dad and Sissy.

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SCHOOL NEWS

Baseball team breaks in field

by Sam Wambles

For the first time ever the members of the Zion Chapel baseball team do not have to drive to Elba to play a home baseball game. The Rebel baseball team finally has a field to play home baseball games on. When asked about the new field, head baseball coach John Donaldson said, "Playing the first game on our new field was an experience I will never forget. It was more about the day itself than the actual game. It was a big day for a lot of people that put their time, money, and effort into this project. I would personally like to thank these people. I am extremely blessed to work in the Jack community and at Zion Chapel High School. We are looking forward to many memorable moments on our new field."

Although the season has not been one to really brag about so far, it has had its high points. Several players on the team are having a good season at the plate including Josh Smith who hit the team's first home run. Brandon Arnold has picked up two wins on the mound to lead the Rebels from the top of the hill. Coach Donaldson said, "The season has been one of ups and downs thus far, but I think we have a chance to be a solid club before this thing is over. We have had some highlights such as a win over 3A Pike County and an area win over Houston County. If the weather will stay good and allow us to get some quality practice in, I think everything will work out."

FFA NEWS

by Perry Cauthen

On Friday, February 28, the New Brockton Farm Center hosted the County Career Development Events for FFA. Those who competed were Enterprise, Elba, Zion Chapel, New Brockton, and Kinross. Zion Chapel member Eric Stokes won first place in the Safe Tractor Driving Contest. In this contest he identified the oil, the battery, and the fuel, and temperature before he started the tractor. He then proceeded to put on his seat belt, check the brakes, and begin driving the obstacle course. The obstacle course consisted of backing down a 40 foot alley with 12 inches of clearance, through four gates and putting the trailer in a shed that had only 6 foot of clearance.

Also competing were Macon Hodge, Ceaira Smith, Marcus Moody, and Seth Legg who made up the Forestry team that won Second place. They participated in the compass course, as well as measured trees.



**Zion Chapel High School
REBEL
NEWS**
Rachel Bryan, Sponsor

Paez places first in peanut recipe contest

by Perry Cauthen

Nicky Paez, Zion Chapel's Historian for ECCLA, recently competed in the County ECCLA STAR event contest held in New Brockton on December 3 which hosted Zion Chapel, New Brockton, and Enterprise High Schools.

She competed in the Peanut Recipe contest where she earned first place. The dish had to be a main dish and was judged on its effective and creative use of peanuts. The name of her prize-winning recipe was Hawaiian Chicken.

This award winning dish came again on April 12 at the State Level.



Nicky Paez, Zion Chapel's Historian for ECCLA, recently competed in the County ECCLA STAR event contest held in New Brockton on December 3 which hosted Zion Chapel, New Brockton, and Enterprise High Schools.

Zion Chapel holds cheerleading tryouts for 2003-04

by Ashley Wambles
and Amanda Perry

Zion Chapel High School cheerleading tryouts were held on February 28. There were twelve positions available on the varsity squad and eight to ten positions available on Junior Varsity. Since only twelve tried out for Varsity, they all made it. Unfortunately, there were fourteen that tried out for Junior Varsity and only eight made it. They had to learn two cheers, one chant, and a dance. The students trying out were taught by the senior cheerleaders.

The Varsity will be starting spring practices in April. They



The 2003-04 JV cheerleaders will include: Courtney Grant, Heather Reeves, Brittany Cardwell, Chelsea Freeman, Lindsey Amlong, Kirsten Collins, Caitlin Grissett and Shea Sanders.

Zion Chapel students win at Math Olympiad

Chris Fuller, Michael Rayburn, Jonah Edmondson, and Donovan Kelly were winners in the Twenty-third Annual Tri-State Mathematics and Computer Science Olympiad held at Wallace Community College in Dothan.

Participants in the Olympiad had to attend a junior or senior high school whose location puts it in the Wallace Community College service area or within 90 miles of the Wallace Campus in Dothan. The schools could be either public or private.

The Olympiad was divided into three divisions in order to equalize competition among schools with similar populations. Although all students who competed in a designated contest took the same test, the scores were grouped into the three divisions in order that awards could be presented. Statistical analyses were performed and that was another reason for the three divisions. Each competition consisted of a timed, multiple-choice exam that lasted one hour.

Chris Fuller, a ninth grader, placed first in the Algebra I contest. First of 100 contestants.



Zion Chapel's math olympiad winners: (sitting, 1 to 4) - Michael Rayburn and Chris Fuller; (standing, 1 to 4) - Donovan Kelley and Jonah Edmondson.

Chris's score was the highest. Edmondson placed third in the Computer Literacy contest and Donovan Kelly placed fifth in the Microcomputer Applications contest.

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH, EDUCATION AND SCHOOLS

FCCLA students chosen to participate in Star Events

Kim McClain and Tracy Banks are members of Zion Chapel's Future Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) who have been chosen to participate in FCCLA's Star Events.

Star Events for FCCLA is equivalent to Region and State Competitions of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) and the County, District, and State contests of FFA. These three clubs, FCCLA, FBLA, and FFA, are Zion Chapel's three Career/Technical clubs. This means that club activities are an integral part of the instruction in business, family science, and agriculture.

Kim and Tracy will be competing in a team event called Focus on Children. It is a competition that requires some type of project in the school or in the community. They decided that special



FCCLA students Kim McClain and Tracy Banks are members of Zion Chapel's Future Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) who have been chosen to participate in FCCLA's Star Events.

Zion Chapel performs at district contest at Troy State University

Each year, the Zion Chapel High School Band performs at District VIII Alabama Bandmasters Association Concert Band Festival, held in Troy State University in late February.

The band meets on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays after school in January and February to prepare for this festival. This year, the band received a rating of "Excellent" for its performance. The concert band performed "Valdres," a Norwegian march by Johannes Hønsen; "This Is My Father's World," a traditional hymn beautifully arranged by Fred Allen; and "Cloudburst," a contemporary piece composed by Susan Christiansen.

"We held auditions in December for everyone," Michael Bird, band director, told the newspaper staff. "Out of 40-plus auditions, I selected the top 29 of the musicians for the advanced band, and that is the group that rehearsed after school."

The tryouts were comprised of five major scales and two sightreading pieces. "Interest in band this semester has remained very high," Mr. Bird continued. "We have six students trying out for drum major, twenty-four for color guard, and three for majorette," he said. "I

can't recall when the band numbers were this large. We have thirty beginners, which means that if we keep everyone we have right now we will be pushing seventy in the marching band for 2003. We may be one of the largest bands in our area next year, from one of the smallest schools. I am very excited about the kids being so fired up for band. It's good for them to experience the joy of performing music together."

Mr. Bird also complimented the students who have represented Zion Chapel at honor band events this year: Melanie Perry, Jeri Flowers, Jason Sanders, Jeri Sanders, Kala Bundrick, Kim McClain, Jennifer Taylor, Erica Lewis, Stacy Williams, Donna Flowers, Clint Rhodes, Caitlin White, and Keri Hobbs.

"Melanie and Jeremy attended the University of Montevallo honor band in March and had a tremendous musical experience," Mr. Bird said. "The clinicians were outstanding and the campus was beautiful. I am proud of Melanie and Jeremy for attending."

The Rebel Band will hold its annual Band Banquet on April 26, followed by two Spring Concerts on May 15 and May 22. In addition, band members will attend Solo and Ensemble festival in May and compete with other schools for recognition.



Over 60 students from Ala., Ga., and Fla. attended the Brass Symposium at TSU. Pictured are (left to right) Dave "Doc" Kirby, emcee for the event and program director for WTBF-FM 94.7; Dr. Jim Zingara, professor of trumpet at TSU and the organizer of the annual symposium; Melanie Perry, trumpet player in the ZCHS Band; Elizabeth Weeks, trumpet player in the Elba High Band; and Michael Bird, band director and music teacher at ZCHS.

SCHOOLS

Elba High School golf team starts a new season

by Katie Driggers

The season for this year's Golf Team has gotten off to a great start.

This year's team consists of three seniors Bart Barnes, Justin Allen, and Colby Skinner (injured), two juniors Colby Capps, and Ben Dye, one sophomore Even Tew, and two freshmen Timothy Jackson and Hunter McGuire.

They have already played in two tournaments, the Blue Grey Classic in Montgomery and the Joe King Memorial Classic Golf Tournament in Auburn. At the Blue Grey Classic they competed with 27 other teams from Alabama ranging from 2A-6A where they placed 13th. At the Joe King Memorial Classic they played teams from Alabama and Georgia where they were the only 3A school competing against mostly 6A teams. They

came out very well, 10th out of 22. Their next match is on April 1 at the Dothan Country Club against Houston Academy, defending 2A state champions. Coach Susan Barnes says, "We are playing a tough schedule this year. The tournaments we have already played consist of the defending state champions from last year in all classifications. We hope by playing this tough of a schedule will better prepare us for the state tournament in May. It also gives the players a chance to be seen and maybe be able to receive scholarships. I feel like we have a great opportunity to win the state title in 3A. We have worked really hard and we plan on the continued improvement." The team placed 4th in 2001, and 4th in 2002. The overall goal for the team this year is for that state title.

Ben Dye says, "Our goal is to



2003 Elba High School Golf Team

continue to improve throughout the season, and finish up strong with a state championship win." Colby Capps commented that, "We want to keep Mrs. Barnes happy and proud of us."

The rest of the schedule will be local matches and one more

tournament at the Palmetto High School Golf Championship in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina in April.

So, best of luck guys on the rest of your season, and for that state title!

Senior plans after high school

by Jessica Lauren Hathcock

Many seniors in the class of 2003 are ready to go off to college or a job offer. Then there are some who are still in the dark as to what they want to be when they grow up. One of the latter is me. I have yet to pin point what I plan to do with my life. There are so many roads that I can take. I am confused as to which one is better suited for me. Yet, as I said, many of the seniors have everything in order. I thought that it would be interesting to hear from some about what they plan to do after they graduate from Elba High School.

Kimberly Farris says, "My plans after graduation include attending Troy State University, living in a dorm with Katrina, and participating in TSU's awesome band program. Prospects as my major include: law, photography, journalism and music. I can hardly wait!"

Sheena Flowers replied, "I plan to go to Troy State University to major in secondary education in English and history, and to get my Masters in counseling." Trent Farris says, "I plan on going to Andrews College in Cuthbert, Ga. However, I have yet to pick a major but don't worry, I'll keep you (the public) informed."

Erin Marlor stated, "I want to attend LBW in Andalusia and major in acting."

Shawna Hill told me, "I want to go to TSU and major in computer programming or graphic design."

As for me, my wish is to go to The Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) in Savannah, Ga. where I could major in computer art and illustration.



Tiger Tales

Editor:
Sheena Flowers

Co-Op Spotlight

by Shawna Hill

Brandon Bowers is the 17-year-old son of Tim and Debbie Bowers, and he works at OK Tire Store in Elba.

Brandon declared that he participates in Mr. Davis' class building projects. Also, he said that he likes to play his guitar, spend time with his loved ones, and play sports, especially football.

Bowers stated, "As the future draws near, I see myself graduating from high school, going to Aviation school in Ozark, and working as a mechanic on helicopters in Ft. Rucker."

Girls selected for varsity cheerleader

by Mary Katherine Head

EHS Varsity Cheerleader tryouts were held on Friday, March 14, beginning at 3:30 p.m. Previously, the girls had attended three different clinic dates to learn the material necessary to tryout.

They were required to perform an entrance and exit, three jumps, a group cheer, an individual cheer, an individual chant learned the day of tryouts, the "Eye of the Tiger" line dance, and another short dance. The girls were also judged on either being a base or flyer in both a shoulder-still and elevator.



by Kaci Grantham

This week's character trait has a very special and relevant meaning. It is patriotism. Patriotism is love and devotion for one's country. Now more than ever our country needs to stick together. It will not be Saddam Hussein who will bring this country down; it will be us. Abraham Lincoln said, "America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms it will be because we destroyed ourselves."

War is not about what is best for one specific person but the good of the whole nation. "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country," as famously quoted by John F. Kennedy. Once again I would like to stress the importance of our country coming together during this time of war.

AEC selects youth tour winners from Elba High School

Submitted by Brittany Cooper

A select group of Elba High School (EHS) students are learning more about the history of electric cooperatives by participating in the annual Alabama Electric Cooperative (AEC) Youth Tour Program. The high school juniors recently competed in an intensive competition, which included essay, test and interview portions. AEC has served as a participant in the Washington Youth Tour program for 19 years, sponsoring the program at Andalusia High School, Elba High School, Opp High School and Pike County High School.

The winner and runner-up receive an expense-paid trip to the Alabama Rural Electric Association (AREA) annual meeting in April in Montgomery, Ala. The winner will also represent AEC at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Youth Tour program in Washington, D.C. in June.

Blake Brunson, daughter of Jack and Jane Brunson, was Elba High School's third alternate. Brunson is involved in many organizations at EHS, including the Student Council, Mu Alpha Theta, the Journalism Staff and the EHS Dance Line. Brunson is a member of the First Baptist Church Youth Group.

Alex Allen, son of Milton and Jeannie Allen, was EHS's second alternate. Allen is the Spanish Club vice president, is a member of the math and social science teams and serves as a peer tutor at EHS.



Cast of Little Red Riding Hood

Colby Capps, son of Mike and Brenda Capps, was EHS's first alternate. Capps is a member of the All State Golf Team and is listed in "Who's Who Among American High School Students." Capps also serves as an EHS Ambassador and is a member of the Senior Beta Club.

Ben Dye, son of Tony and Shirleen Dye, was EHS's runner-up. Dye is also part of the Coffee County Youth Leadership Program and is listed on the All-A Honor Roll. Dye participates in the Student Government Association and the Spanish club.

Mary Katherine Head, daughter of Thomas and Sybil Head, was the winner from EHS. Head is the co-captain of the varsity cheerleading squad and is a 2003 National Youth Leaders Conference nominee. Head participates in the Senior Beta Club, the journalism staff, and the EHS dance line.

The other participants were: Katie Dye, Derrick Thoms, and Christy Eubanks. Congratulations to all participants and winners!!!

A Touchstone Energy® cooperative, Alabama Electric Cooperative is a generation and transmission cooperative headquartered in Andalusia, Ala. Its member owners include 16 distribution cooperatives in south and central Alabama and north-west Florida, the Alabama municipalities of Andalusia, Brundage, Elba and Opp, and the Opp-Micolas Mills, Opp, Ala. AEC's 21 member owners distribute energy to residential, commercial and industrial customers in 39 counties in Alabama and 10 counties in northwest Florida.

Mr. Williams is pleased with the overall report card, but says that he would like to see improvement in certain areas.

WAY TO GO!!!

Sixth grade talent pool students perform bedtime story plays

by Meredith English

On Monday, March 17, Mrs. Brackin's sixth grade talent pool students acted out several "bedtime stories."

Rhonda Brunson explained it as a "comical take on classic fairy tales."

The three plays performed were "Rumpelstiltskin," "Rapunzel," and "Little Red Riding Hood."

The students had been practicing several months and did a wonderful job of entertaining. Good job!



Cast of Rumpelstiltskin



Cast of Rapunzel



Cast of Little Red Riding Hood

Elba High School gets its report card

The high school has recently received its "grades" for the 2001-2002 school year. Here are the results broken into three groups: school (Elba High), system (Elba City), and state. The average daily membership, the number of students on attendance rolls during the first forty days of school is 473.8, up since 2000-2001's number of 460.1. The average daily attendance, the number of students that attend school each day, has dropped, however.

Our programs of career/tech education are 100% certified and are on track to meet their goal to certify all programs to industry standards by sometime in 2003.

All of our teachers in math, science, and social studies are 100% certified to teach in their subjects within Elba's school system, surpassing state percentages. Elba High School has had a very minimal number of discipline problems.

On the Alabama Graduation High Exam of 2002, 90.6% passed the entire test, scoring a B and passing the state score. However, improvement is needed on the ACT (we have a C-) and daily attendance. Also, our school's projected 4-year dropout rate (between the years 2001-2001) is very low. This does not reflect annual drop out rates.

Mr. Williams is pleased with the overall report card, but says that he would like to see improvement in certain areas.

PICTURE OF THE WEEK (by Alex Benbow). When will this thing be over?

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Remember to Replace Those Smoke Alarms

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in the United States a person dies in a fire every 2.5 hours and another is injured every 24 minutes. Alabama has ranked among the top 10 states nationally for fire-related deaths and injuries for the past decade. Those most at risk are children, ages 5 and under, and adults

ages 65 and older.

The most common causes of residential fires are cooking and heating sources, and the most common cause of fire deaths is smoking. A working smoke alarm reduces the chance of dying in a fire by 50 percent. The following tips are suggested for proper maintenance of a smoke alarm.

* Install one alarm per level of a home.

* Place smoke alarms within 10 feet of the family sleeping area.

* Test smoke alarms monthly.

* Change the batteries on a yearly basis. A useful tip to follow: when resetting clocks on April 5, change smoke alarm batteries.

For more information on fire safety, please contact the Injury Prevention Division of the Alabama Department of Public Health at 334-206-5300, or visit the Web site at www.adph.org/injuryprevention.

ZC Elementary School celebrates Dr. Seuss' birthday

by DeAnn Wallace

Zion Chapel Elementary School was buzzing with talk about the green eggs & ham they had eaten for breakfast, the red top hats the teachers were wearing, and what their favorite Dr. Seuss books were. On Monday, March 3, 2003, we celebrated "Dr. Seuss' Birthday - Read Across America Day." All the faculty and staff got into the mood of the day by wearing shirts with the different characters from all the books, read and white top hats, and guest readers. Even the lunch-

room personnel had a special breakfast made of green eggs and ham for all the students to enjoy.

During the day, students participated in fun activities such as making top hats, drawing pictures, writing stories, and reading books.

Throughout the day the sound of children's laughter filled the hallways. Everyone seemed to enjoy the day with all the fun filled activities there were to do.

Mrs. DeAnn Wallace's 4th grade English class had a grand day while learning about Dr. Seuss. First, Mrs. Wallace welcomed each of her students wearing a top hat. "Mrs. Wallace," Alexis began, as she grinned from ear to ear, "You look so silly!" Next, we began by reading the biography of Dr. Seuss. Brandon stated, "You mean Seuss is a pen name." Wesley replied, "What is a pen name?" As the class began we had good discussion questions about Dr. Seuss. Then, the class got into the mood by making their own Cat In The Hat top hats. Some students made a traditional hat of red and white, while others chose a more colorful arrangement. Mrs. Debra Herron, ZCES

The students enjoyed guest readers

guidance counselor, was also in the mood for Dr. Seuss stories. She visited our class and read, Fox In Socks. As she prepared to read Mrs. Wallace told her, "Be careful this book is a tongue twister!" The students were seated in front of her as she began reading the book. Once she finished she replied, "You were right, Mrs. Wallace, this book will make your tongue numb!" The students also looked at other books by Dr. Seuss and some volunteered to read to the rest of the class.

Our class had Herby McCall as a guest reader. He read the books, Green Eggs & Ham, and Are You My Mother? The students all enjoyed our reader and had a blast as he read. After Mr. McCall finished the students worked on a culminating activity about Green Eggs & Ham. Finally, they returned to their homeroom for lunch.

The entire elementary school enjoyed our "Read Across America Day." Students learned that reading can be as much fun as watching cartoons. Across our nation "Read Across America" programs are used to enhance students' creative thinking and motivate them to become life-long readers.

Kinston Schools develops School Improvement Plan

Kinston School is in the process of developing a School Improvement Plan as part of the accreditation requirement of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). This process is well under way and will be a major focus of the school for the next year. Parents, community leaders, and school personnel have adopted the following seven beliefs for Kinston Schools:

* Student learning is the chief priority for the school with students' learning needs the primary focus of all decisions impacting the work of the school.

* Each student is a valued individual with unique physical, social, emotional and intellectual needs.

* The commitment to continuous improvement is imperative if the school is going to enable student to become confident, self-directed, life-long learners.

* A safe and physically comfortable environment promotes student learning.

* Students learn in different ways and should be provided with a variety of instructional approaches to support their learning.

* Students learn best when they are actively engaged in the learning process.

* Students need to not only demonstrate their understanding of essential knowledge and skills, but also need to be actively involved in solving problems and producing quality work.

A mission statement was formulated and selected by the same group of stakeholders as stated above. The following is the mission statement for Kinston School:

Kinston School is committed to providing students with a safe environment and a challenging yet developmentally appropriate curriculum. Students are expected to be active members of the learning process and are encouraged to become confident, self-directed, lifelong learners.

This statement reflects the beliefs that we hold about our school and will provide the foundation for all policies, procedures, and guidelines that support the achievement of the desired results for student learning at Kinston School.

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Stay Connected to Your Co-op

Don't miss the CEC Annual Membership Meeting on April 3



CEC employee Susie Adams shows the grand prize, a 1991 Chevrolet 1500 fleetside truck, to be given away to one lucky CEC member at the 2003 CEC Annual Membership Meeting on April 3. Other major prizes include a 27-inch color TV, microwave oven, DVD player, electric grill and \$150 cash.

You Could Win!

In addition to six major prizes, about 30 other gifts will be awarded. Registered Covington Electric Cooperative members will receive a free outdoor thermometer, calculator, magnetic message board, and other useful items. Prizes will be awarded immediately following the business session. Members must be present to win any of the six major prizes. For complete rules and regulations, please see the March issue of Alabama Living magazine.



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Thursday, April 3

COVINGTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Andalusia Kiwanis Community Center

Registration — 3 p.m.

Entertainment — 5:30 p.m.

Business Session — 7 p.m.



Family Entertainment

The Hoppers of Madison, N.C., will entertain the crowd during this year's meeting. During their long career, the Hoppers have enjoyed many popular hit releases. They've had five releases peak at number one, including the songs, "Shouting Time," "Here I am" and "Anchor To The Power."

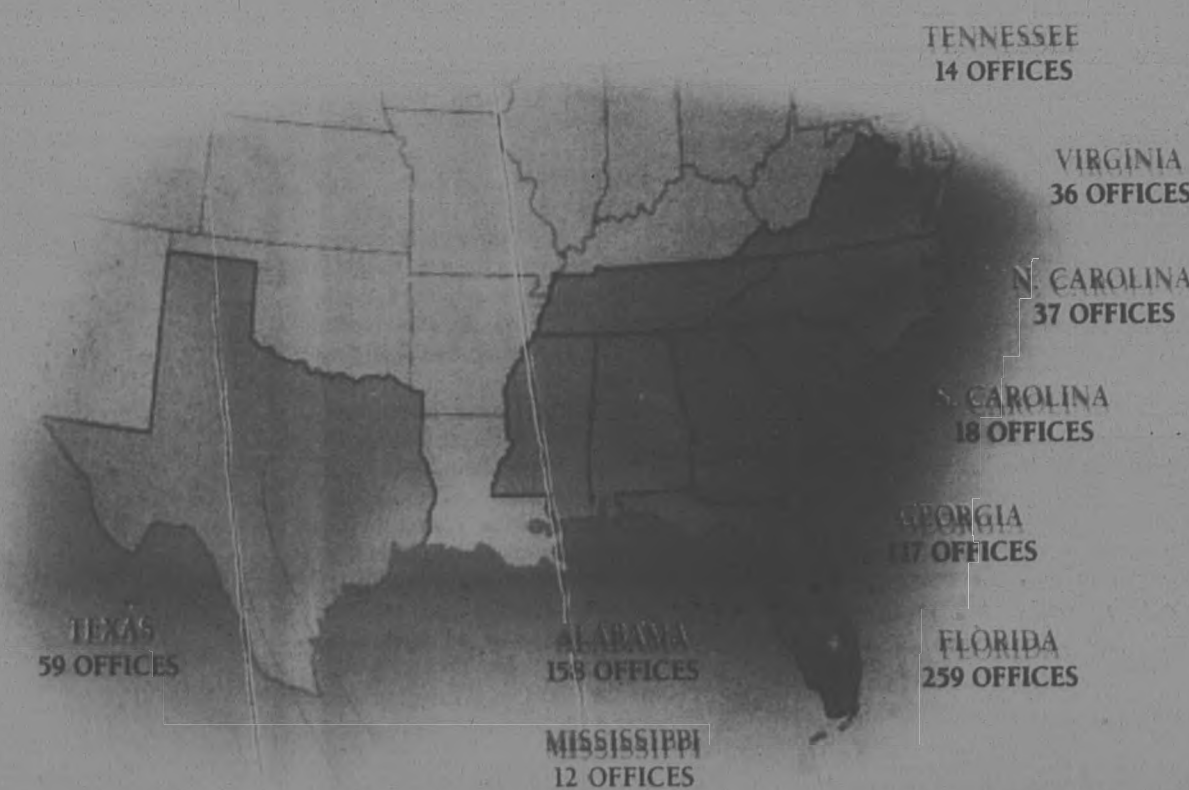


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SPORTS

Views from....

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Both of our girls got kittens several months ago, and now that the kittens have grown into cats, they have learned the ways of the world, at least around the Mularz house. I am usually the one that feeds the cats, and they have learned that when the sun comes up in the morning they must split up and cover both the back door and side door to make certain I don't head off to work without filling up their bowls. The cats will whine from the time the sun comes up until they are fed just to remind us they are hungry, and will follow every step we make until someone heads into the storage room. I am not really fond of cats, but I will admit these two have us all figured out.

SWINGS AND MISSES...

*** The Elba Tigers competed in last week's Arton Spring Break Baseball Tournament and posted a 2-2 record to place third in the six-team event. The Tigers did post wins over county rivals Kinston and New Brocton, but got roughed up by Pike County in a 15-0 loss, and then lost to Pike County again, this time 7-5 in the final game of the tournament. The Tigers did do some damage at the plate as they collected 33 hits in the four games and had 11 doubles, 3 triples and 1 home-run, but struggled on the mound as the Tiger staff allowed 34 hits, 20 walks and hit 6 batters. Elba still has the teeth of its schedule ahead, and the Tigers must find a way to regain their confidence both at the plate and in the field if they hope to keep the area title here in Elba.

*** The Elba Lady Tigers took the week off after posting a 1-2 record at a tournament up in Troy, and it will be interesting to see just how the girls bounce back from their first two losses of the season. The Lady Tigers have one of the area's top young pitchers in Stephanie Baxley and always expect to win when she is on the rubber. However, the tournament did reveal a possible weakness at the plate that could prove fatal against good pitching, and the Lady Tigers will have to put in extra hours in the cage and at the plate in practice if they hope to keep on winning. Elba's schedule is favorable for the girls to start another winning streak, but the key will be how much the girls improve and not just their record as the season rolls along toward the region tournament.

*** Even though they placed second last week in the Arton tournament, the big winner in the event had to be the New Brocton Gamecocks. The Gamecocks had struggled throughout the season and entered the tournament with a 1-3 record, but finally woke up and posted a 1-3 record in the six-team event to even their record at 4-4 with key area games just ahead. New Brocton had managed to find a way to lose games early on that they could have won, and now that the Gamecocks know how to win, maybe they will get on a roll and step forward in the 2A race.

*** CBS was already crying the blues about the ratings for the NCAA tournament due to TV coverage of the war, but after Saturday's upsets the CBS sports officials have to be wondering just what is going on. It was considered a sure thing heading into the tournament that Kentucky would meet Arizona in the semifinals, and the so-called sports experts even criticized the NCAA for putting the two best teams in the same side of the bracket. Now that Marquette has knocked off Kentucky and Kansas has eliminated Arizona, the sports reporters will have to find something else to whine about, and the folks at CBS will have to hope the nation's college basketball fans will still turn in.

*** Alabama held its annual "A Day" game Saturday and new coach Mike Price made it clear that he wanted points scored as he put the starters on one side of the ball and back-ups and walk-ons on the other in a lopsided game that really accomplished very little. Brodie Croyle passed at will against the Tide reserves and gave Tide fans hopes that Alabama's new wide-open attack will result in lots of points, while the Bama defense starters also dominated play and had some big hits. Now, if Alabama can just find an opponent as bad as its reserves maybe it can win a bunch of games next season. The problem is that the Tide is still in the SEC, and the competition will be a little tougher.

*** In closing...many Elba parents will find their schedule even busier than usual next week when the youth baseball and softball leagues start their seasons and go head to head with the high school teams in both sports. I would imagine Mom and Dad will take turns going to games to support their youngsters, and make certain that all the kids know they are in the stands cheering. Get ready parents, the time is near!

UMPIRES MEETING

Anyone ages 16 and above who wishes to umpire baseball & softball this season in Elba should attend a meeting on Sunday, April 6, at 7 PM at the Elba Recreation Center. For more information call 897-6833

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Marcus Henderson pitched a one-hitter to lead Elba to a 14-4 win over Kinston last week in the Arton Spring Break baseball Tournament.

Elba falls twice to Pike County

The Elba Tigers battled the Pike County Bulldogs twice last week in the Arton Spring Break Baseball Tournament and came out on the short end of the score in both games to close the tournament with a 2-2 record.

The Tigers met the Bulldogs Monday afternoon and suffered a lopsided 15-0 loss, then tangled with the Pike County crew again Tuesday night and this time came out on the short end of a 7-5 decision.

Following are highlights of both games:

PIKE CO. 15 ELBA 0
The Elba Tigers met the Pike County Bulldogs on Monday afternoon and were drubbed 15-0 in a five-inning defeat.

The Tigers managed only three hits in the game and threatened to score only once, when a single by Kyle English and a double by Jason Curran put runners on second and third with two outs in the third inning.

Pike County had no such problems at the plate; however, as the Bulldogs battered their Elba pitchers for 12 hits, including two home runs, and scored in every inning to post the easy win.

Kyle English, Jason Curran and Matthew Curran all got 1 hit for the Tigers, while Brandon Petty took the loss on the mound as he pitched 1 and 2/3 innings and allowed 9 runs on 8 hits and 4 walks. Kyle English also pitched 1 and 2/3 innings and allowed 6 runs on 4 hits and 2 walks, while Ralston Moore pitched 2/3 of an inning and allowed no runs on no hits, while walking one.

PIKE CO. 7 ELBA 5
The Elba Tigers got a rematch with the Pike County Bulldogs in the final game of the two-day tournament and this time battled hard for all seven innings before losing 7-5.

First-inning singles by Brandon Petty, Kyle English and Ralston Moore helped the Tigers jump out to an early 1-0 lead. However, Pike County combined two hits with three hit batters to pull even at 1-1 in the bottom of the second, and then combined two doubles with three walks and two hit batters in the third to score four runs and grab a 5-1 advantage.

A one-out single by Kyle English and a two-run homer by Jason Curran enabled the Tigers to cut the Pike County lead to 5-3 in the top of the fifth, and Elba got as close as 5-4 in the sixth when Rick Smith was hit by a pitch and later scored on an RBI single by Brandon Petty.

Pike County plated two runs on one hit in the bottom of the sixth to stretch its lead to 7-4, but the Tigers again refused to give up, and kept its hopes of a seventh-inning rally alive when Jason Curran led off with a double and then scored on a two-out, single by Rick Smith. A single by Ryan Gibbs and a walk to Matthew Curran loaded the bases with two outs. However, this time the Tiger rally fell short as Blake Lambert popped out and Pike County took the win 7-5.

Kyle English and Jason Curran both had 2 hits and scored 2 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Ralston Moore took the loss on the mound as he pitched six innings and allowed seven runs on six hits and four walks while hitting five batters and striking out 12.

At Arton tournament

Tigers sweep past county rivals

The Elba Tigers competed in the Arton Spring Break Baseball Tournament last week at Arton High School and took advantage of the two-day event to claim wins over county rivals Kinston and New Brocton.

The Tigers opened the tournament with an big 14-4 win over Kinston, then scored four runs in the bottom of the seventh inning to ease past New Brocton 10-9.

Following are highlights of both games:

ELBA 14 KINSTON 4

The Elba Tigers staged a late rally to bury the Kinston Bulldogs 14-4, in opening round action on Monday afternoon.

Kinston took advantage of three walks to score two runs in the top of the first inning to grab a quick 2-0 lead. However, the Tigers quickly cut into the lead as Brandon Petty led off the bottom of the inning with a triple and later scored on an RBI single by Kyle English.

The Bulldogs added two runs without a hit in the third inning to up their lead to 4-1, but the Tigers again answered the challenge and this time pushed across two runs to pull within 4-3. A one-out double by Brandon Petty ignited the Elba rally, while Kyle English knocked in Petty with a long sacrifice fly. Jason Curran drew a two-out walk to keep the rally alive, and then raced home with the Tigers' second run of the inning when Marcus Henderson ripped a double to center.

The Bulldogs added two runs without a hit in the third inning to up their lead to 4-1, but the Tigers again answered the challenge and this time pushed across two runs to pull within 4-3. A one-out double by Brandon Petty ignited the Elba rally, while Kyle English knocked in Petty with a long sacrifice fly. Jason Curran drew a two-out walk to keep the rally alive, and then raced home with the Tigers' second run of the inning when Marcus Henderson ripped a double to center.

Elba took advantage of two walks and two-out single by Rick Smith to take its first lead of the game at 5-4 in the bottom of the fifth, then put an end to the game in the bottom of the sixth as the Tigers batted around and scored nine runs to claim the big 14-4 win.

An error off the bat of Matthew Curran was sandwiched around two ground outs as the Tigers had one man on base with two outs. However, things got wild for the Tigers from there as a walk to Brandon

Petty kept the inning alive, and Kyle English followed with a two-run double to up the Elba lead to 7-4. After Jason Curran was hit by a pitch, the Tigers battered Bulldog pitchers for five straight hits, including doubles by Ralston Moore and Ryan Gibbs, and ran away to claim the 14-4 win.

Brandon Petty got 2 hits and scored 3 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Kyle English added 2 hits and collected 4 RBI's. Marcus Henderson added 2 hits and scored 2 runs and Rick Smith also added 2 hits. Marcus Henderson was the winning pitcher as he pitched six innings and allowed 4 runs on 1 hit and 5 walks, while striking out 9 batters.

ELBA 10 N.B. 9

The Elba Tigers pushed across four runs in the bottom of the seventh inning to claim an exciting 10-9 win over the New Brocton Gamecocks.

New Brocton came out ready to play in the early morning battle and combined six hits with two walks to jump out to a 5-0 lead in the top of the first inning. Elba's bats were also ready to boom in the Tigers' first at-bat, as Brandon Petty and Kyle English opened the inning with back-to-back doubles. Marcus Henderson added Elba's third double of the inning one batter later, and Rick Smith later added a one-out double as Elba scored four runs to cut the Gamecock lead to 5-4 after one wild inning of play.

The Gamecocks upped their lead to 6-4 in the top of the second, only to see the Tigers match the run when Jason Curran was hit by a pitch and then raced home on a triple by Ralston Moore, and then pulled even at 6-6 when Moore raced home on a passed ball.

Neither team scored for the next three innings as the score remained tied at 6-6 heading into the top of the sixth. However, the Gamecocks were far from being finished and added three runs on two hits in the sixth to up their lead to 9-6. Elba was still behind 9-6 heading into the bottom of the seventh, but staged one final rally and plated four runs to rally and steal the win.



Brandon Petty hung out two singles, two doubles and one triple last week to help Elba win two games in a tournament in Arton.

added three runs on two hits in the sixth to up their lead to 9-6. Elba was still behind 9-6 heading into the bottom of the seventh, but staged one final rally and plated four runs to rally and steal the win.

A one-out walk to Marcus Henderson gave the Tigers hope, and those hopes rose even more when Ralston Moore followed with an RBI triple that scored Henderson and cut the Gamecock advantage to 9-7. A walk to Rick Smith gave the Tigers two base runners with still only one out, and Ryan Gibbs then delivered an RBI single that pulled Elba within 9-8. Smith raced home from second base on a ground out by Blake Lambert, and Gibbs then scored one batter later as a slow roller by Matthew Curran to give the Tigers the wild 10-9 win.

Ralston Moore ripped 2 triples, scored 2 runs and knocked in 2 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Ryan Gibbs added 2 hits and scored the winning run. Derrick Thomas was the starting pitcher for the Tigers and pitched 5 and 1/3 innings, allowing 8 runs on 7 hits and 4 walks, while Brandon Petty got the win in relief as he came in and pitched 1 and 2/3 innings and allowed 1 run on 3 hits, while striking out 2 batters.

YOUTH BASEBALL & SOFTBALL STARTS ON MONDAY, APRIL 7 IN ELBA SUPPORT THE YOUNGSTERS AND LET 'EM HEAR YOU CHEER!!!!



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SPORTS

As softball season resumes

Lady Tigers looking to regain winning touch

The Elba Lady Tigers will carry a 10-2 record and a #3 ranking in the state into action this week as they return to the softball field after struggling to a 1-2 record in the prestigious Trojan Softball Classic in Troy.

"You never want to lose," said Elba's Coach Amelia Rhoades, "but we went up against some pretty good competition up in Troy and hopefully the girls found out that they have to play their best every time they take the field if they expect to win. We hit the ball well in our opening loss to Goshen, but couldn't get a key hit with runners on base, and then only got four hits in two games on the second day of the tournament. We saw very good pitchers in both games and have to learn to make adjustments at the plate as the game goes on. Maybe the large number of walks we received in some games early in the season got some of our girls looking for walks. I don't know, but we must hit the ball better if we expect to keep on winning."

"I was also very disappointed in our play in the field in the tournament," added Coach Rhoades. "We made countless errors that resulted in easy runs for our opponents, and in the loss to Theodore lost 10-0 and allowed only one earned run the entire game. We still have a good 3A team and we know we can and will get better. However, the tournament in Troy did expose some weaknesses that we will have to work on and improve on."

After 12 games, the Lady Tigers have been led on the pitching rubber by freshman standout Stephanie Baxley. Baxley owned a 9-1 record at the spring break and had allowed only 18 hits and 4 earned runs in 68 innings pitching. The Lady Tiger hurler had walked 25 batters in those innings, while striking out 87.

At the plate, the Lady Tigers have been led by senior Samantha Williams and junior Michelle Carpenter, both with .333 batting averages. Freshman Whitney Lawford was also above the .300 mark with a .320 average, while senior Devri Kilcrease stood at .263 with nine runs scored and two home runs.

"We have at least two games a week on our schedule the remainder of the season," stated Coach Rhoades. "and the key will be to improve each and every time we take the field. We can't be satisfied with what we have accomplished, we have to work hard and play hard in every game if we want this season to be something special."



Elba pitcher Stephanie Baxley has been a standout throughout the season for the Lady Tigers as she has recorded a 9-1 record. The freshman standout has allowed only 18 hits and 4 earned runs in 68 innings pitching, while striking out 87 batters.

High School

* BASEBALL * SOFTBALL * SCHEDULES

* BASEBALL *

Thursday, April 3

Opp at Elba (V) 5:00

Floral at Kinston (V) 4:30

Saturday, April 5

Kinston at Slocomb (V) 9:00

Kinston vs. Geneva County, at Slocomb

Tuesday, April 8

Elba at Straughn (V) 4:00

Brantley at Kinston (V) 4:00

Thursday, April 10

Elba at Arton (V) 5:00

* SOFTBALL *

Thursday, April 3

Elba at Geneva County (V) 4:00

Pleasant Home at Kinston (JV-V) 4:30

Monday, April 7

Arton at Kinston (V) 4:30

Tuesday, April 8

Abbeville at Elba (V) 4:00

Kinston at Geneva County (V) 4:30

Thursday, April 10

Opp at Elba (V) 4:00

Basketball tourney set at Ino

A "3 on 3" basketball tournament will be held at the Ino Baptist Church Family Life Center on Saturday, April 26, beginning at 9:00 AM. The cost to enter is \$65 per team, with each team being limited to a four-man roster. Trophies and a \$30 gift certificate to Hibbert's Sporting Goods will be presented to the winning team, with trophies going to the second place team. The registration deadline is April 25 at 12:00 noon, and to register a team call Bro. John Freeman at 568-3970 or 565-3283.

Clayhatchee to host softball tourney

There will be a men's Class C and below softball tournament on Saturday, April 12, at the Clayhatchee Community Park. Entry fee is \$100 per team and to enter call Nancy at 598-4322 or Diane at 598-5547.

Boating safety course to be held April 7-8 at LBW MacArthur campus

Lurleen B. Wallace Community College MacArthur Campus will offer a Boating Safety Course on Monday, April 7, 2003 and on Tuesday, April 8, 2003. This course will be held from 6:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. each evening in the Conference Center Building. This classroom course is approved by the Alabama Marine Police Division. Taking the boater certification course will enable participants to comply with the Alabama Boat Certification Law. Participants will also be eligible for a discount on their boat or PWC (or ski) insurance with most providers.

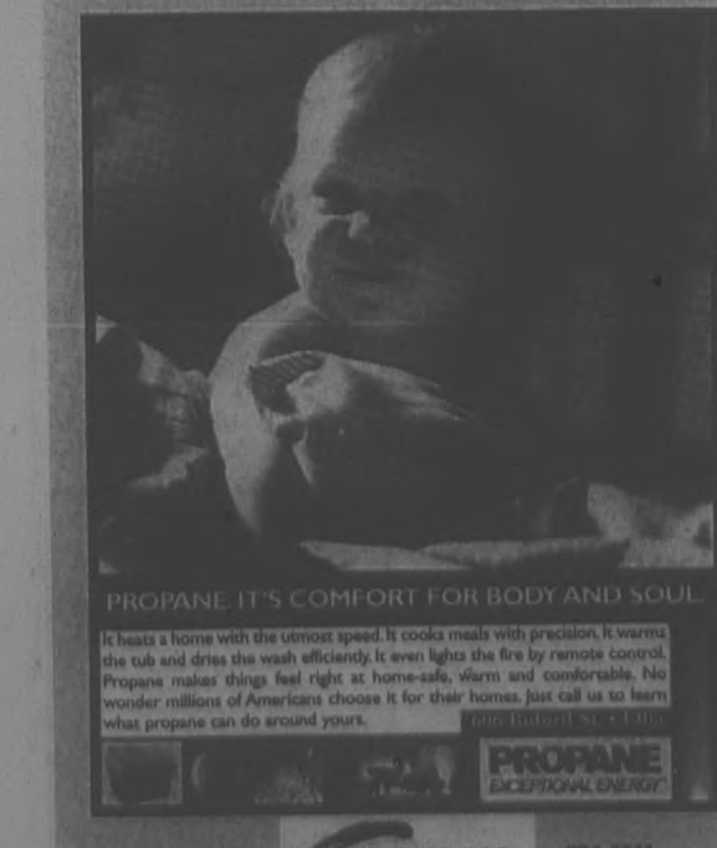
Busy sports week ahead in Atlanta

Atlanta is known as the Sports Capital of the World - and, this April, the city is once again affirming its status. The NCAA brings the 2003 Women's Final Four to town April 6 and 8. That same weekend, the Atlanta Braves take on the Florida Marlins in a four-game series. The Atlanta Beat professional women's soccer team hosts their home opener. And, the Atlanta Hawks and Thrashers switch off nights at Philips Arena. The 2003 Women's Final Four headlines a weekend filled with events for basketball fans of all ages including NCAA® Hoop City®, an interactive celebration that features a floor full of interactive basketball games and a 3-on-3 tournament. The free Open Practice and Autograph sessions give fans the chance to see the nation's best teams on the Georgia Dome floor and take home a souvenir from their favorite players. Fans can view an online guide to the Women's Final Four in Atlanta at www.atlanta.net. April 4-7, the Braves create classic baseball action complete with pitcher-catcher duels and a highly competitive game against the Florida Marlins. Kicking off their regular season, the Beat - with notables Briana Scurry and Cindy Parlow - take on the New York Power Sat., April 5, at the Morris Brown Stadium in downtown Atlanta. After the Hawks battle the Memphis Grizzlies on April 5, Philips Arena flips from court to rink, and the Thrashers take on the Tampa Bay Lightning Sun., April 6.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Timothy Blue dba Stop Game Room, have made application to the City of Elba for a 950-Retail Beer license off premises consumption at this location, 1306 Martin L. King Drive, Elba, Alabama.

A public hearing will be held by the City Council in their regular meeting in the Council Chamber in City Hall at 5:30 p.m., Monday, April 14, 2003.



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4-3-03

1-100 TON GRAIN BIN AND CONVEYER. Call (334)897-6850.

3-6-03

FOR SALE: White wicker daybed with mattress, special ordered \$300. Call Vickie Bailey at 897-3320.

3-20-03

BABY GRAN PIANO Kimball 11. Mags. Good Condition. \$2,800.00. Call Gwendolyn 897-5125.

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DISCOVER WONDERS OF WATERLESS COOKWARE-

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ELBA INSULATION CO. Residential or commercial. Batts or blown-in. Fiberglass Insulation. Call Earl Yates 897-3630. 4-11-03

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AUCTIONS

D & J AUCTIONS AND APPRAISALS

Antiques and collectibles Auction 14 & 3rd Sunday 1:00 p.m. General Merchandise Auction 1st & 3rd Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Main Street, Kinston, Alabama Auctioneer: J.W. Jones, Jr. AL License #1778 - 334-493-7990. 3-20-03

ATHENS TRACTOR Salvage

Going out of business. Auction Sat. April 12th, 8:00 a.m. Everything going except shelving. Parts, shop eq., combine, tractor. Some working tractors. Office eq., manuals. From 1-65 to Ext. 351 US Hwy 72, go East to location. Call for details. 1-888-543-2306. Bill Jackson Auctioneers, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464. AL#329. 3-27-03

LABRADOR CHOCOLATE PUPPIES

were born March 31st. Size AKC and CKC registered. The puppies are 8 males and 6 females. They will be ready to go around the middle of April. Male \$275.00. Females - \$250.00. These puppies are going fast. Don't miss out on these beautiful puppies. Taking deposits now! Call 334-372-3312 or Home 334-897-5552. 3-13-03

AUCTION - FARM equipment

Saturday, April 5th, 10:00 a.m. Just off Hwy. 87, 14 miles North of Elba, Alabama at Larry Miller's Farm. Burton Auction Co., 1-334-692-3955, Dennis Burton AL#578. www.burtonauction.com

AUCTION - ORDERED U.S. bankruptcy. Sat. April 12th, 10:00 a.m. Farm equipment, backhoe, Dozer, tractors, vehicles, ATVs, boats, trailers, tools! Call for brochure. 1-205-945-0408. Asset Liquidators, Triple H Ranch, Bessemer, AL. Clydette Hughes AL1275. 3-27-03

LAND and timber auction. April 12th, 10 a.m. Morgan County, near I-65. 343 +/- acres in 9 tracts; current hunting preserve. AmeriSouth Auction, Inc. 1-256-353-7525. Chuck Crump, AAL# 1539. (R) 3-27-03

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2001 MAZDA TRIBUTE ES - leather - sun roof - V-6 - only 19,000 miles

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INSIDE
 Anna Anderson
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 Miss Elba 2003



The Elba Clipper

Volume 106, Number 43

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, April 10, 2003

1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Local law enforcement officers make several drug arrests within three week period

Law enforcement officers from the Elba Police Department and Coffee County Sheriff's Department continue to wage war on the manufacture, possession and use of illegal drugs in the area, and jointly made several more arrests and drug seizures throughout the past three weeks.

Elba Police Chief R.W. (Ronnie) Whitworth and Coffee County Sheriff Ben Moates commended the officers for their efforts in the battle against the drug epidemic, and together said they hope these efforts will help to get a stronghold on this growing problem.

Throughout the three week period, spanning from March 14-

April 1, officers with the two departments arrested 19 individuals on various drug charges.

On Friday, March 14, officers were in the process of serving a felony warrant on Phillip David Brown for possession of a controlled substance when they noticed the strong odor of methamphetamine from inside his residence. According to reports, Brown invited officers into the residence, and they found a meth lab sitting on a makeshift table in the kitchen area. At that point, the lab was disassembled and evidence was collected by the officers. A hazardous materials disposal company was contacted to take possession of the materials and chemicals used to manufacture methamphetamine.

Phillip David Brown was arrested on the warrant for unlawful possession of a controlled substance and was also charged with unlawful manufacture of a controlled substance - first degree. He was placed in the Coffee County Jail under a \$30,000 bond.

On Monday, March 17, officers executed a search warrant at the residence of David and Brenda Lee, 109 Durham St., New Brockton, and found what they referred to as an elaborate type lab being concealed in the attic of the home. Officers said chemicals and assorted cookware were being concealed in the kitchen area, and a very large amount of hazardous waste was found in and around the home. Also, a substantial amount of "meth oil" and powdered methamphetamine was discovered.

David Harold Lee, age 39, of New Brockton, Brenda Fay Lee, age 38, of New Brockton, and Cody Ledon Stephens, age 19, of Dothan, were arrested and charged with the manufacture of methamphetamine - first degree, possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) and possession of drug paraphernalia.

David and Brenda Lee were placed in the Coffee County Jail under a \$40,500 bond, and Cody Ledon Stephens was placed in the Coffee County Jail under a \$2,500 bond.

On Friday, March 21, officers were investigating a report of drug activity at the residence of Cynthia Ellis Stephens on Summons Street in Elba. Upon receiving consent to search the home, officers found methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia.

Arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) and possession of drug paraphernalia were Cynthia Ellis Stephens, age 37, of Elba, Rex Roman Rhodes, age 57, of Brantley, and James Ray Sanders, age 31, of Glenwood. Sanders were also charged with tampering with evidence.

Stephens and Rhodes were placed in the Coffee County Jail under a \$10,500 bond each and Sanders was placed in the jail with his bond set at \$11,500.

Also on Friday, March 21, Elba police officer Kevin Wise recovered approximately one pound of marijuana after initiating a routine traffic stop. Arrested were Otis LaVaughn Daniels, age 25, of Luverne, and Frankie Louis Daniels, age 41, of Elba. Both were released on bond and are awaiting the case to go before the grand jury.

On Thursday, March 27, officers were attempting to serve outstanding warrants at the residence of Edwin Doyle Lee and Peggy Sue Lee on Coffee County Road 223 when they discovered marijuana, smoking devices, white powder (which was turned over to the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences for analysis) and assorted paraphernalia after receiving consent to search the home.

Edwin Lee was arrested on the outstanding warrants from Covington and Coffee counties and now faces new charges of unlawful possession of a controlled substance.

Investigator Tony Harrison, narcotics officer with the Elba Police Department, and Investigator Mark Anderson, who is assigned to the 12th Judicial Drug Task Force through the Coffee County Sheriff's Department, together reported 175 cases and 84 arrests with the seizure of several thousand dollars cash in the quarterly reports for the drug task force.

These numbers reflect only the activity conducted by the Elba Police Department and Coffee County Sheriff's Department, and are a direct result of the joint effort which began the second week in January 2003. Therefore, the work of the local departments combined with the efforts of other agencies within the 12th Judicial Drug Task Force indicate law enforcement officers are fighting to win the battle against the drug epidemic that has such a stronghold not only on Coffee County but the entire United States.

Harrison and Anderson said many officers from their respective departments have assisted in capturing these drug offenders, and they thank each and every one for their continued efforts.

"It has taken a lot of hard work and long hours to accomplish what we have done so far," Harrison said. "We look forward to the hard work and long hours that are still ahead as we continue to do our jobs to the best of our abilities in order to make a difference in and around Coffee County."

The officers said they are anticipating many more arrests as the grand jury prepares to convene in the near future, and anyone with information that could assist in capturing a drug offender is urged to call their local law enforcement agency.

After all, they said it is everyone working together that really makes the difference.



Highly flammable, poisonous and explosive chemicals are used in the production of methamphetamine; therefore, those who manufacture the drug not only place themselves in danger but also endanger those around them.

methamphetamine lab along with the associated chemicals, cookware and finished product. Arrested at the scene and charged with possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia were Brian

Please See DRUGS, Page 2

Elba and Coffee County joint effort paying off in regards to drug arrests

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Joining forces has proven very effective for two local law enforcement agencies already this year as the Elba Police Department and Coffee County Sheriff's Department continue to "crack down" on illegal drugs.

The two departments joined forces in early January, and the numbers so far prove the effort is paying off as the 12th Judicial Drug Task Force reports impressive figures for the first quarter of 2003.

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Upon the recommendation of Ingram, the board voted and approved a motion to proceed with letting the bids for the projects combined in one package.

Tom Moates addressed the board concerning textbook recommendations, and he said the books up for renewal include career technical books.

"Career technical education is still important," Moates said. "In fact, I think it's more important than the state places on it."

He said career technical courses include: agriscience, business education, family and career science and carpentry. With a change in curriculum, he said it is going to require purchasing books for the upcoming year.

Moates said the textbook committee was made up of all the career technical teachers within the school system, and after careful review, they provided a list of desired books for the board to consider.

However, Moates suggested adopting every book on the state list to allow the teachers to keep

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Celebrate Elba 150 kickoff set for Sunday

All the planning and talking about Elba's 150th celebration will come together this weekend as the citizens gather around the square in Elba Sunday afternoon to get things started.

The event will be a special religious ceremony, and it will serve as the kickoff for "Celebrate Elba 150."

This ceremony will be hosted by the Celebrate Elba 150 committee and the Elba United Methodist Church, which also celebrates its 150th anniversary this year.

The festivities are set to begin at 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 13, with the First Baptist Church Children's Handbell Choir followed by the recently organized community choir, and although plenty of special music will be provided by the choir, other special moments will also highlight the ceremony.

Former Coffee County Probate Judge Macon Brunson will provide a history of Elba, and Rev. John Baxter, pastor of Elba United Methodist Church, will serve as the event's speaker.

Also, a "Happy Birthday" poem will be offered by Wenzel Gray, and the event will conclude

with the singing of "Happy Birthday" to Elba and "God Bless America."

Celebrate Elba 150 has been designed to be a year long celebration of the city's rich history, and several events have been planned throughout the year to include an upcoming fun run, youth fishing tournament, sequentennial ball, a weekend festival, etc.

And, the highlight event will come in August when the "possum" George Jones visits Elba to deliver one of his memorable concerts at the beloved Foggy Bottom stadium.

According to committee members, other activities will be planned as the year continues, and Celebrate Elba 150 promises to be a celebration no one wants to miss.

Everyone is encouraged to gather around the square Sunday afternoon to help kickoff this special celebration in style and say happy birthday to Elba and one of its treasured landmarks, Elba United Methodist Church.

For more information, call the Elba Chamber of Commerce at 897-3125.

Improvements approved at Kinston, New Brockton and Zion Chapel Coffee County BOE proceeds with capital fund projects

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Board of Education studied specifications provided for three different capital funds projects last Thursday evening, April 3, and later voted

to proceed with the projects. Kinston, New Brockton and Zion Chapel will benefit from the projects as the wiring will be upgraded at Kinston, air conditioning will be added to the auditorium at New Brockton

and the office area will be moved to the front of the building at Zion Chapel Elementary. Also at Zion Chapel, the library will be enclosed with shelving added.

Even though we are facing tough times ahead, I feel all these are projects that we should proceed with," superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram said.

Attending the Thursday evening meeting was architect Bill Wallace, and he provided specifications for the board members to look at for each job.

At Zion Chapel, Wallace also recommended going ahead and adding a canopy to the front of the building to provide shelter for the students in times of rain. He said this whole project should cost a projected \$65,000.

Wallace said the air conditioning project at New Brockton should cost about \$100,000, and the Kinston wiring job should be approximately \$70,000.

When asked about the age of the existing wiring at Kinston, the best answer anyone could give was, "It is long overdue."

Wallace said the specifications for the three projects have been submitted to the building commission for approval; therefore, he said with the board of education's approval, bids could be sent out for the projects. He

also recommended bidding the three projects as one package which he said will save the school system money in the long run.

Upon the recommendation of Ingram, the board voted and approved a motion to proceed with letting the bids for the projects combined in one package.

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Please See BOE, Page 2

Area Happenings

THE PINY WOODS ARTS FESTIVAL will be held Saturday, April 12, and Sunday, April 13, on the grounds of the Enterprise-Oriskany Community College. It is located at the intersection of Boll Weevil Circle and Hwy. 167 South, Enterprise. Festival times are Saturday from 9:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Sunday from 12 noon until 4 p.m.

COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION will hold its regular bimonthly meeting Monday, April 14, at 9 a.m. in the community room of the county complex in New Brockton.

WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH BAPTIST MEN will sponsor the annual community Sunrise Service on Sunday, April 20, at 6:30 a.m. Rev. Bobby Holladay, pastor of Westside, will bring the message. The Westside choir will provide the music. Breakfast will follow in the Activities Building. Everyone is invited to attend the service and breakfast that follows.

THE DOTHAN-HOUSTON COUNTY SUBSTANCE ABUSE PARTNERSHIP AND THE WIREGRASS HISPANIC-1-800-OUTREACH PROGRAM will host the International Family Day in the Park on Saturday, May 3, from 10:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Johnny Henderson Park, Hwy. 167 N., Enterprise. Activities scheduled include Wiregrass Hispanic soccer tournament, Hispanic folkloric fire musical entertainment and workshops on Hispanic heritage. For more information, call Myra Aguirre at (850) 783-5709.